

10 April 1946

MEMORANDUM - AIR POUCH

TO: Alfred C. Ulmer, Jr., Vienna
FROM: 209
SUBJECT: Sarasen

You are undoubtedly aware of the considerable flurry which resulted from the removal of DuBois from a train. Because of an intimated connection with Sarasen (provision of travel papers which had been incomplete) Saint here felt very strongly that we should take steps to eliminate Sarasen from our midst. I resisted the implication that I should send you an immediate order, and told the boys that I would require further information before I was prepared to go off the deep end.

The further information which arrived in the nature of a cable from Phil was to the effect that everything was in order; that he was aware of all the implications which were horrifying the angels, and that he personally had complete confidence in Sarasen having known him for ten months and observed his operations. This gave me a very clean out and I was able to say more or less "you may not have confidence in your field men but I do". I thereupon tore up the draft of a cable which I had prepared awaiting the receipt of further information.

This denouement left very little opportunity for further representations except that there is considerable perturbation still existing about the freedom with which Sarasen is given the run of our shop. Howie Chapin in his discussions with Saint had insisted that Sarasen was actually a staff member. I pointed out that I was not quite sure what that meant in Vienna, but I agreed that the use of a non-citizen as an actual staff member who had freedom of access to our operations was contrary to directive from 109. This, together with the fact, that Sarasen is associated with a Saint operation which might lead the bloodhounds to him leads me to raise very seriously the question whether he should not be insulated from our office. Your probable reaction will be that Sarasen is so well-known as an associate of the Americans that this would serve no useful purpose. My reply to this would be only that an apparent separation and the maintenance of covert contacts with him would make it more difficult for our opposition to adduce proof of our connections than would be the case if he were frequently in and out of the office.

I would like to have a reply from you at your earliest convenience, giving me a clear picture of the way in which you handle Sarasen. I informed Saint that I was not familiar with the operational management in Vienna, and that I was unwilling to send you any orders until I was

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Page 2.

fully aware of the precautions or lack of them which exist. I would be much pleased if you would discuss this rather fully with Phil, and I guarantee that your joint position will receive full support from me.

SNP:lbw

209

SECRET